

Amendments To Specification:

Please replace paragraph [00032] with the following amended paragraph (showing amendments):

[00032] The ACFG manager 20 initiates a communication cycle, also called an ACFG cycle, in which all station addresses possible in the corresponding serial bus system are addressed. In the exemplary embodiment in Figure 4 a communication cycle for allocating station addresses to communication users is shown by way of example. The chronological sequence of the data packets corresponds in principle to the direction of the time arrow t. At the start of the communication cycle the ACFG manager 20 sends what is known as an SDD request PDU 34 (SDD = Systems Data Distribution) by broadcast ~~37~~ 27 to all users in the bus system. The SDD request PDU 34 is an exemplary embodiment of a third data packet 13 in accordance with Figure 3. By means of the SDD request PDU 34 all station addresses characterized as non-occupied are announced by the ACFG manager 20 in the bus system. Each ACFG agent saves in each ACFG cycle the list of free bus addresses contained in the SDD request PDU 34.

Please replace paragraph [00033] with the following amended paragraph (showing amendments):

[00033] The request PDUs illustrated below are what are known as NAN request PDUs 35 – 40 (NAN = New Agent Notification). A NAN request PDU is an exemplary embodiment of a first data packet 10 in accordance with Figure 2. The NAN request PDU 35 – 40 contains where necessary information uniquely identifying a communication user. The ACFG manager 20 sends a NAN request PDU 35 – 40 to every available station address 28 – 33. If the station addresses 28, 30 are not occupied by a communication user, the ACFG manager 20 does not receive a corresponding response PDU to the respective NAN request PDU 35 or 27 37. In this case the ACFG manager 20 characterizes these station addresses in its system MIB as non-occupied. All station addresses to which no reply is given contain, for example, the entry “free” in the system MIB 21. All station addresses with this entry are simultaneously published as a broadcast message at the start of each ACFG cycle by means of an SDD request PDU 34 to all communication users.